



## Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program

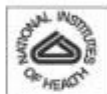


Department of Health and Human Services

## Who is Part of the National EHDl Effort?

---

Families  
Advocacy Groups  
Service Providers  
Federal Agencies  
State/Local Programs  
Policymakers  
Partners



## CDC - EHDl Supports Research Efforts To:

---

- Identify the causes of hearing loss (genetic and/or environmental)
- Determine long-term outcomes of hearing loss and impact on the family
- Assess the effectiveness and cost of state and territorial EHDl programs
- Enhance the newborn hearing screening process

*The mission of the CDC - EHDI program is to ensure that each state and territory has a comprehensive EHDI tracking and surveillance system to ensure that children with hearing loss develop communication and social skills that match their cognitive (thinking) abilities.*

## **Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI)**

---

Every year 1 to 2 in every 1,000 children are born with hearing loss. When a child's hearing loss is identified soon after birth, families and professionals can make sure the child receives intervention services at an early age. This will help the child to develop communication and language skills that will last a lifetime.

### **Where are CDC - EHDI programs?**

---

CDC funds the development of EHDI tracking and surveillance systems in the following states:



Green  
The Virgin Islands

 States and territories with a CDC cooperative agreement

## **EHDI Programs, the 1-3-6 Plan**

---

### ***Screening***

...before 1 month of age

### ***Evaluation***

...before 3 months of age

### ***Intervention***

...before 6 months of age

**Screening:** There are two types of screening tests used to evaluate infant hearing status. Each screening test takes a few minutes and is a safe and painless procedure. Infants often sleep through these tests.

**Evaluation:** Any infants whose screening test results indicate possible hearing loss should be referred for hearing evaluation. Infants with confirmed hearing loss should be referred for a full audiological, developmental and medical evaluation.

**Intervention:** All infants with confirmed hearing loss should be referred to intervention services, including medical, educational, audiological, and support services. These services will help give families information about the full range of intervention options so that they can make informed choices.

---

The National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities works to promote the health of babies, children, and adults, and enhances the potential for full productive living.

---

## EHDI Tracking and Surveillance Systems

- Ensure that all infants are screened for hearing loss and receive timely and appropriate follow-up testing and early intervention services
- Help evaluate EHDI programs to ensure quality services
- Describe national trends related to early hearing detection and intervention
- Help assess health outcomes of children identified with hearing loss
- Identify infants and children with late onset or progressive hearing loss
- Connect all infants and children with hearing loss to a medical home
- Identify children beyond the newborn period with a hearing loss





**For more  
information about:**

- **CDC - EHDI program**
- **Screening data**
- **National EHDI goals**
- **Research activities**

**Visit our website**

[www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi)

email: [ehdi@cdc.gov](mailto:ehdi@cdc.gov)

Telephone and TTD 404-498-3032

Healthline 1-888-232-5929

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention



Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention